

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A simulation method ~~[[of]]~~ for simulating a behavior of a mechanism of a mechanical device that is regulated by mechanism control software using a hybrid model of the mechanical device, the hybrid model including a state transition model and a continuous system model, the method comprising:

analyzing the hybrid model to extract a first description data of a the state transition model and a second description data of a the continuous system model;

generating a table representing a relationship between continuous system equations and switching conditions thereof, based on the extracted first description data;

generating a plurality of internal data expressions of all the continuous system equations, based on the extracted second description data;

starting a simulation of the mechanism after completion of generating the table and generating the internal data expressions;

selecting an active continuous system equation by looking up the table according to an occurrence of an event; and

outputting data that represents the behavior of the mechanism by solving the selected active continuous system equation by numerical integration using ~~one or more~~ of the internal data expressions that corresponds to the selected active one or more continuous system equations, wherein the outputted data is supplied to the mechanism control software as a response to a control signal provided from the mechanism control software.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
switching the active one of the continuous system equations to ~~[[the]]~~ another continuous system equation by operating a flag assured for each of the continuous system equations.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the event is responsive to one of ~~[[a]]~~ the signal and an evaluation result of an internal variable, ~~the control signal being provided from an external process including mechanism control software that controls the mechanism.~~

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising executing a kinematics simulation which uses the data that represents the behavior of the mechanism.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) A simulation method ~~[[of]]~~ for simulating a behavior of a mechanism of a mechanical device that is regulated by mechanism control software using a hybrid model of the mechanical device, the hybrid model including a state transition model and a continuous system model, the method comprising:

analyzing the hybrid model to extract a first description data of a the state transition model and a second description data of a the continuous system model;

generating a first program code based on the extracted first description data;

generating a second program code based on the extracted second description data;

generating a plurality of internal data expressions of all the continuous system equations by executing the second program;

starting a simulation of the mechanism after completion of the steps of generating the first program code, the second program code, and the internal data expressions;

switching continuous system equations according to switching conditions thereof by executing the first program; and

outputting data that represents the behavior of the mechanism by solving the continuous system equations by numerical integration using the internal data expressions,

wherein the outputted data is supplied to the mechanism control software as a response to a control signal provided from the mechanism control software.

7. (Currently Amended) A simulation apparatus which simulates a behavior of a mechanism of a mechanical device that is regulated by mechanism control software using a hybrid model of the mechanical device, the hybrid model including a state transition model and a continuous system model, comprising:

an analyzing unit configured to analyze the hybrid model to extract a first description data of a the state transition model and a second description data of a the continuous system model;

a first generating unit configured to generate a table representing a relationship between continuous system equations and switching conditions thereof, based on the extracted first description data;

a second generating unit configured to generate a plurality of internal data expressions of all the continuous system equations, based on the extracted second description data; and

a simulation execution unit configured to:

start a simulation of the mechanism after generating the table and the internal data expressions;

select an active continuous system equation by looking up the table according to an occurrence of an event; and

output data that represents the behavior of the mechanism by solving the selected active continuous system equation by numerical integration using one or more of the internal data expressions that corresponds to the selected active ~~one or more~~ continuous system equations, wherein the outputted data is supplied to the mechanism control software as a response to a control signal provided from the mechanism control software.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the simulation execution unit switches an active one of the continuous system equations to another continuous system equation by operating a flag assured for each of the continuous system equations.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the event is responsive to one of ~~[[a]]~~ the control signal and an evaluation result of an internal variable; ~~the control signal being provided from an external process including mechanism control software that controls the mechanism.~~

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a kinematics simulation execution unit configured to execute a kinematics simulation which uses the data that represents the behavior of the mechanism.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A simulation apparatus which simulates a behavior of a mechanism of a mechanical device that is regulated by mechanism control software using a hybrid model of the mechanical device, the hybrid model including a state transition model and a continuous system model, comprising:

an analyzing unit configured to analyze the hybrid model to extract a first description data of a the state transition model and a second description data of a the continuous system model;

a first generating unit configured to generate a first program code based on the extracted first description data;

a second generating unit configured to generate a second program code based on the extracted second description data;

a third generating unit configured to generate a plurality of internal data expressions of all the continuous system equations by executing the second program;

a simulation execution unit configured to:

start a simulation of the mechanism after generating the table and the internal data expressions;

~~a switching unit configured to~~ switch continuous system equations according to switching conditions thereof by executing the first program; and

an outputting unit configured to output data that represents the behavior of the mechanism by solving the continuous system equations by numerical integration using the internal data expressions, wherein the outputted data is supplied to the mechanism control software as a response to a control signal provided from the mechanism control software.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program stored in a computer readable medium for simulating a behavior of a mechanism of a mechanical device that is regulated by mechanism control software using a hybrid model of the mechanical device, the hybrid model including a state transition model and a continuous system model, the program comprising:

means for instructing a computer to analyze the hybrid model to extract a first description data of a the state transition model and a second description data of a the continuous system model;

means for instructing the computer to generate a table representing a relationship between continuous system equations and switching conditions thereof, based on the extracted first description data;

means for instructing the computer to generate a plurality of internal data expressions of all the continuous system equations, based on the extracted second description data; and

means for instructing the computer to start a simulation of the mechanism after generating the table and the internal data expressions;

means for instructing the computer to select an active continuous system equation by looking up the table according to an occurrence of an event; and

means for instructing the computer to output data that represents the behavior of the mechanism by solving the selected active continuous system equation by numerical integration using ~~one or more~~ of the internal data expressions that corresponds to the selected active one or more continuous system equations, wherein the outputted data is supplied to the mechanism control software as a response to a control signal provided from the mechanism control software.

14. (Original) The program according to claim 13, further comprising means for instructing the computer to switch an active one of the continuous system equations to another continuous system equation by operating a flag assured for each of the continuous system equations.

15. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 13, wherein the event is responsive to one of ~~[[a]]~~ the control signal and an evaluation result of an internal variable; ~~the control signal being provided from an external process including mechanism control software that controls the mechanism.~~

16. (Original) The program according to claim 13, further comprising means for instructing the computer to execute a kinematics simulation which uses the data that represents the behavior of the mechanism.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program stored in a computer readable medium for simulating a behavior of a mechanism of a mechanical device that is regulated by

mechanism control software using a hybrid model of the mechanical device, the hybrid model

including a state transition model and a continuous system model, the program comprising:

means for instructing a computer to analyze the hybrid model to extract a first description data of a the state transition model and a second description data of a the continuous system model;

means for instructing the computer to generate a first program code based on the extracted first description data;

means for instructing the computer to generate a second program code based on the extracted second description data;

means for instructing the computer to generate a plurality of internal data expressions of all the continuous system equations by executing the second program;

means for instructing the computer to start a simulation of the mechanism after generating the first program code, the second program code, and the internal data expressions;

means for instructing the computer to switch continuous system equations according to switching conditions thereof by executing the first program; and

means for instructing the computer to output data that represents the behavior of the mechanism by solving the continuous system equations by numerical integration using the internal data expressions, wherein the outputted data is supplied to the mechanism control software as a response to a control signal provided from the mechanism control software.